

BROOKLYN VILLAGE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2015

The Nov 9, 2015, Village Board meeting of the Village of Brooklyn was called to order at 6:34 pm at the Village Hall by President Pat Hawkey. Trustees present were Kyle Smith, Russell Cazier, Sue McCallum. Trustees Todd Klahn and Heather Kirkpatrick were absent. Others present were Clerk Strause, Chief Barger, PW Director Langer, Dan Dean, Brienna Anders, Erin Chrisman, Sarah Grapentine, Nadine Walsten, Robert Frandy, Diane Newlin, Denise Arnold, Teresa Pelton, John Marx, Mary Gehin. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2016 BUDGETS was conducted: General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Cemetery Fund, Debt Service Fund, Capital Project Fund, Water Utility, Sewer Utility, TID #1 Fund, and TID #2 Fund. There were no public comments and the hearing closed at 6:36 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS-Dan Dean, EMS Director, spoke to correct inaccuracies in the last Board minutes regarding the Brooklyn EMS being out of service on numerous occasions. Dean stated they have done aggressive recruitment but finding volunteers is difficult. He continued the Brooklyn EMS works well with mutual aid agreements to assure 24/7 coverage for all district residents. A "911" call will provide an ambulance. Dean wants all facts on the table and residents take advantage of the resources available. **Oregon Youth Center representatives** spoke in support of the center. Written testimonials were available and one youth presented her support for the center that has helped her through life happenings as it was a safe place to go for someone to talk to. Denise Arnold stated she is a volunteer at the center that has rules and guidelines to follow and considers it an investment to help youth and give them opportunities. Arnold stated the Town of Oregon has the same financial struggles as the Village but have raised their Youth Center commitment to \$5,000. The Village's budget amount requested from the Center is \$3800. Diane Newlin, Youth Center Director, stated their budget is under \$50,000 a year. There are volunteer tutors two nights a week at the center. The center gives support to kids after school when they need it the most. **Nadine Walsten spoke in support of the Youth Center** investing in our kids and also in support of our **local EMS** that provides the help when needed to get to the hospital quickly and asked the Board to look at other sources for cuts. Walsten also commented on the **joint court agreement** stating the first six months the agreement was in place in 2015, there was to be careful monitoring to determine a per citation cost. In the past, there were seven to nine citations per month with an average 89 citations per year with a court budget of about \$9,000. If the Village did not merge, new court software was needed costing \$3,000 + extensive training for a new judge and a new certified court clerk. Abolishing the local court was looked at previously and have Dane County take over but our Village attorney would need to prosecute all cases. Walsten encouraged the Board to look at abolishment of the joint court carefully and concluded that the proposed budget at \$18,000+ for a joint court was out of line.

Trustee Smith moved, second Cazier, carried to approve the minutes of 10-5-2015. Smith moved, second Cazier, carried to approve the minutes of 10-12-15. Trustee McCallum abstained. Smith moved, second Cazier, carried to approve the minutes of 10-21-15. Trustee McCallum abstained.

There was no report from President Hawkey. **Clerk Strause gave the September financials** with income of \$73,620.15, expenses \$86,922.45, and end of month balance in all funds of \$1,417,896.61. The **2016-2017 nomination process starts Dec 1, 2015** for three Village Trustee positions (Cazier, Leavy, McCallum) and a Municipal Judge for the Joint Court with Belleville (dependent on decision later this meeting). The filing deadline is Jan 5, 2016 for nomination papers. Dec 28th is the last day to file Notification of Non-Candidacy.

PUBLIC WORKS: Pellitteri Waste Systems offered an amendment to their last month's contract amendment lowering monthly cost by \$.04 each month and adding an additional dumpster for clean up days. Trustee Smith moved, second Cazier, carried to approve this amendment. PW Director Langer reported on the **annual DNR wastewater facility inspection** done on 10-21-15 which was another very good report. Langer gave credit to the PW crew and especially Utility Supt. Spilde. **LRIP funds** (est \$53,000) in Green County will go to two other communities with the Village having a first chance at 2018 funds. There were three applications this year. Spilde put a proposed job description and researched information for a **school to work**

program which will be discussed later in the budget. There were no questions on monthly reports. Leaves are being picked up until weather prohibits it or there are no more.

SAFETY: Chief Barger stated there was no meeting for lack of quorum.

CONSENT AGENDA: Trustee Smith moved, second Cazier, carried to approve payment of November bills as presented.

NEW BUSINESS: President Hawkey moved, second Cazier, carried to approve **2016 membership in the Brooklyn Area Chamber of Commerce** for \$35. Trustee McCallum abstained.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Finance committee recommends adding back to the budget \$3,000 for archiving/backups services for all employee/Trustee emails. This will be discussed later with the budget. Oregon Senior Center's budget exceeds their net costs from the prior year by more than 7% requiring approval from their contracted members. President Hawkey stated the Village may not be able to afford this service after the contract ends 12/31/2016. There is a proposed new Oregon senior center building being discussed and there will be cost increases. Two of three participating communities need to consent to the increased costs. Hawkey moved, second Cazier, carried to reject the more than 7% increase in net costs. The requested 2016 budget amount is \$21,084. **Oregon Youth Center's budget request for \$3800** was further discussed. McCallum, in support of the center, moved to approve the \$3800, second by Smith with voting as follows: AYE: McCallum, Smith. NAY: Cazier, Hawkey. Motion fails for tie vote. Cazier moved, second McCallum to fund \$3,000 (cutting \$800). McCallum stated this is \$158 per year per child with the Village spending more on summer recreation for a program that runs only six weeks while this a yearly program. McCallum withdrew her second. Cazier withdrew his motion. McCallum continued suggesting the recreation program in the community maybe could work on this if we can't find the money. The recreation committee is not addressing what the youth center is addressing but could be another part of our recreation offerings, structured differently. The school is not being utilized for summer classes. Cazier stated there are other communities that are utilizing their services without paying into program, i.e., City of Fitchburg and Town of Brooklyn are not contributing. Newlin stated letters have been sent to both. Fitchburg has rejected support for the center. Newlin also stated she is working with Stacey Hardy, Recreation chair, on the healthy living expo to be held in January. Cazier asked if parents help defray costs. While some do donate, others are financially unable to give to the center.

2016 budget review for all funds: Clerk Strause explained the Expenditure Restraint Program with DOR's recent release of growth factor data with the Village having to remain under 1.2% expense increase in the General Fund to qualify for ERP funds in 2017. The current 2016 General Fund proposed expenditure is at \$945,149 which is under the 2015 expense of \$950,921 qualifying the Village for ERP funds. With increased expense in the Senior Center budget needing \$698, Fire/EMS needing \$28,340 to fully fund, and adding back \$3,000 for email archiving, the total cuts still needed are \$32,038. All line items in the General Fund were reviewed with total cuts of \$26,234 with \$25,550 further cuts to the Capital Projects accounts. The levy limit worksheet was reviewed and is at \$811,374 with \$8757 added to Line "H" for an increase in costs associated with an intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Belleville for a Joint Court. If the court is dissolved, \$8757 would be removed and the new levy limit would be \$802,617 which includes \$183,538 for debt service payments. The allowable levy would have a mill rate increase over last year of \$.15/1000 assessed value. This does not account for any TID increment values. The vote at the last meeting on the **EMS budget** was to pay \$15 per capita per the contract, and donate up to the \$40 per capita until a new contract is established with all municipalities. Contract discussion is to start in December by the District Board. Unbudgeted ERP funds of \$20,472 could be used toward the \$28,340 balance needed leaving a need for \$7868. Cazier moved to pay the \$60 per capita for EMS services in 2016 including debt payment. Motion was withdrawn. Hawkey moved: Because the debt for fire district is no longer a revenue bond debt but a part of the municipal debt service meaning the EMS contract is null and void and would be in violation paying over \$15 per capita, the Village will pay \$15 per capita for EMS service and donate \$45 per capita including debt to arrive at the \$60 per capita dependent on a new contract being arrived at between the district and this municipality by Feb 29 2016. Motion was second Cazier and unanimously carried. Another special Board meeting will be held on

Nov 16th to finalize/adopt the budgets and approve the levy, and Resolution #2015-10 for 2015 Payable 2016 taxes. Hawkey moved, second Smith to approve the finance committee's recommendation to take delinquent utilities, special assessments, and special charges to the 2015 tax roll payable 2016.

Discussion on **continuing or dissolving the joint Municipal Court with Belleville** was had. An ordinance to dissolve needs to be adopted before Nov 24th when the election notice needs to be posted for the 2016 Spring positions to be elected. The new court term would be 2016-2020. All cases can be taken to Circuit Court if discontinued and all citations can be processed in one court even though written in another county so that Dane citations could be processed in Green County. Because of our costs increasing significantly and there is not revenue to sustain this cost, Cazier moved, second Hawkey, carried to discontinue the joint court. The original intent was to lower our costs with a joint system. A lot of money has been spent on this process over the past few years. An Ordinance to dissolve will be on the Nov 16th agenda. Meeting will start at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Electronic Media-McCallum moved, second Cazier, carried to accept the resignation of Chair Brit Springer from the committee. The need for this committee was discussed. Hawkey moved, second Cazier, carried to discontinue the committee. There were **no Planning & Zoning, Emergency Management, or Ordinance** committee reports. **Fire-EMS** – A letter from the Fire/EMS District President was reviewed with concerns over the Village's cuts to the EMS budget for 2016. **Recreation's craft sale** is next Saturday, Nov 14th. Movie night last week was successful. **Finance**-Cazier moved, second Hawkey, carried to discontinue Saturday tax collection. Hawkey moved, second Cazier, carried to approve the minutes of 10-7-15.

At 10:20 p.m., Hawkey moved, second Cazier, unanimously carried to convene **to Closed Session Pursuant to WI Stats 19.85 (1)(e) to discuss client negotiations for the Business Complex-TID #2**. McCallum moved, second Cazier, carried to reconvene to open session at 10:37 p.m. Hawkey moved, second Cazier, unanimously carried to **sell no more than 1.5 acres (200 ft of frontage on Prosperity Place) to Greg Stahl** as written in the counter offer with amendments, and as stipulated in Village Ordinance Chapter 117 at a cost of \$5,000.

Smith moved, second Cazier, carried to adjourn at 10:38 p.m.

Carol A Strause, MMC, WCMC, CMTW